

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Congressman Mike Pence issued the following statement calling for a vote on the "Broadcaster Freedom Act," which would permanently ban the so-called "Fairness Doctrine:"

"The American people cherish freedom-because it is the very blood-bought heritage of our nation. This is why President Ronald Reagan repealed the so-called 'Fairness Doctrine' in 1987 that actually regulated the content of radio for more than four decades, and this is why we introduced the 'Broadcaster Freedom Act,' which would permanently ban this form of government censorship.

"Defending the freedoms enshrined in the Constitution is not a partisan issue, but the principal duty of every Member of Congress.

"For too long, the specter of government intrusion into broadcast media has loomed and the 'Broadcaster Freedom Act' has languished. The time has come to take decisive action.

"I call on every freedom-loving American to make their voices heard by calling their Members of Congress and demanding a simple up-or-down vote to preserve our First Amendment rights and to send the 'Fairness Doctrine' to the ash-heap of broadcast history, where it belongs."